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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 2313-1450, on the date shown below.

2005 - C 2005

Signature:

Carris Marie

Docket No.: 34650-00665USPT

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Bernard Smeets et al.

Application No.: 09/821533

Confirmation No.: 4727

Filed: March 29, 2001

Art Unit: 2137

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE

LEVELED ACCESS CONTROL

Examiner: C. D. Fields

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated October 6, 2004 (Paper No. 09282004), please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 2 of this paper.



OIP	E JC/13
O / HAL	MR S
PAM MARKS	ENOME

Docket No. ENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER 34650-00665USPT TRADE Application No. Filing Date Examiner Art Unit 09/821533-Conf. #4727 March 29, 2001 C. D. Fields 2137 Applicant(s): Bernard Smeets et al. METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE LEVELED ACCESS CONTROL Invention: TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below. **CLAIMS AS AMENDED** Highest Claims Remaining Number Number Previously Extra Claims After Amendment Paid Present Rate **Total Claims** 20 х Independent 3 x Claims Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) Other fee (please specify): TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT: 0.00 Small Entity x Large Entity No additional fee is required for this amendment. Please charge Deposit Account No. in the amount of \$ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. A check in the amount of \$ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. X The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 10-0447 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. x Credit any overpayment. x Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17. January 6, 2005 Dated: Ross T. Robinson Attorney Reg. No.: 47,031 JENKENS & GILCHRIST, A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION 1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 3200 Dallas, Texas 75202 (214) 965-7300 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

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Dated: January 6, 2005

Signature: